

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Claims 1-46

Claim 47 (currently amended): An instrument panel assembly for an automotive vehicle, comprising:

a first cross-vehicle molded plastic support structure, the first plastic support structure formed of a first plastic material;

a second ~~cross-vehicle~~ molded plastic support structure joined to the first support structure, the second plastic support structure formed of a second plastic material different from the first plastic material;

wherein the first cross-vehicle structure and second structure are adapted to be joined to a separate show surface of the vehicle.

Claim 48 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 47 wherein the first and second structures are panels.

Claim 49 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 47 wherein at least one of the structures provides a vent that is configured to open into a passenger compartment of the vehicle.

Claim 50 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 47 wherein the first and second structures are joined to each other at flanges of the first structure or the second structure, the flanges extending along sides of the first structure or the second structure.

Claim 51 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 47 wherein at least one of the first and second structures is joined to a dashboard.

Claim 52 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 51 wherein the dashboard adjoins a windshield mounted to a body structure of the automotive vehicle.

Claim 53 (currently amended): An assembly as in claim 47 wherein the first structure includes a flange and the second structure include a flange, which corresponds to the flange of the first structure due to their co-molded shapes. ~~one of the first and second structure is insert molded with the other of the first and second structure.~~

Claim 54 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 47 wherein the first material includes at least one of a styrenic, a polyamide, a polyolefin, a polycarbonate, a polyester or mixtures thereof.

Claim 55 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 47 wherein the first material is from a different plastic family than the second material.

Claim 56 (currently amended): An instrument panel assembly for an automotive vehicle, comprising:

a first cross-vehicle molded plastic panel, the first plastic panel formed of a first plastic material;

a second ~~cross-vehicle~~ molded plastic panel co-molded ~~joined~~ to the first panel, the second plastic panel formed of a second plastic material different from the first plastic material wherein:

- i. the first plastic material includes a pc/abs material;
- ii. the second plastic material includes a polyolefin material;
- iii. at least one of the first or second panels assists in defining an air duct for a vehicle cabin heating and cooling system; and
- iv. the first panel is joined to the second panel with one or more mechanical interlocks;

wherein the first cross-vehicle structure and second structure are adapted to be joined to a separate show surface of the vehicle; and

wherein one or both of the first panel and the second panel include an opening for receiving an instrument or a gauge.

Claim 57 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 56 wherein the one or more mechanical interlocks includes a protrusion received in a channel.

Claim 58 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 56 wherein at least one of the panels provides a vent that is configured to open into a passenger compartment of the vehicle.

Claim 59 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 56 wherein the first and second panels are joined to each other at flanges of the first panel or the second panel, the flanges extending along sides of the first panel or the second panel.

Claim 60 (currently amended): An assembly as in claim 56 wherein the first panel includes a flange and the second panel include a flange, which corresponds to the flange of the first panel due to their co-molded shapes. ~~wherein one of the first and second panels is insert molded with the other of the first and second panels.~~

Claim 61 (canceled)

Claim 62 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 56 wherein the first material is from a different plastic family than the second material.

Claim 63 (currently amended): An instrument panel assembly for an automotive vehicle, comprising:

a first cross-vehicle molded plastic panel, the first plastic panel formed of a first plastic material;

a second ~~cross-vehicle~~ molded plastic panel joined to the first panel, the second plastic panel formed of second plastic material different from the first plastic material wherein:

- i. the first plastic material includes a pc/abs material;
- ii. the second plastic material includes a polypropylene material;

- iii. at least one of the first or second panels include openings suitable for receiving one or more components;
- iv. at least one of the first or second panels assists in defining an air duct for a vehicle cabin heating and cooling system; and
- v. the first panel is joined to the second panel with one or more mechanical interlocks.

Claim 64 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 63 wherein the one or more mechanical interlocks includes a protrusion received in a channel.

Claim 65 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 63 wherein at least one of the panels provides a vent that is configured to open into a passenger compartment of the vehicle.

Claim 66 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 63 wherein the panels are joined to each other at flanges of the first panel or the second panel, the flanges extending along sides of the first panel or second panel.

Claim 67 (currently amended): An assembly as in claim 63 wherein the first panel includes a flange and the second panel include a flange, which corresponds to the flange of the first panel due to their co-molded shapes. ~~one of the first and second panels is insert molded with the other of the first and second panels.~~

Claim 68 (canceled)

Claim 69 (previously presented): An assembly as in claim 63 wherein the first material is from a different plastic family than the second material.

Claim 70 (new): An assembly as in claim 1 wherein the show is formed of a molded-in-color thermoplastic polyolefin.

Claim 71 (new): An assembly as in claim 1 wherein one or both of the first panel and the second panel include an opening for receiving an instrument or a gauge.

Claim 72 (new): An assembly as in claim 56 wherein the show is formed of a molded-in-color thermoplastic polyolefin.

Claim 73 (new): An assembly as in claim 63 wherein the first material is PC/ABS.

Claim 74 (new): An assembly as in claim 73 wherein the second material is polypropylene.

Claim 75 (new): An assembly as in claim 74 wherein the first cross-vehicle structure and second structure are adapted to be joined to a separate show surface of the vehicle.